

Guiding Questions Useful in Making Decisions on How to Spend Medicaid Reinvestment Funds

1. What amount is needed for reasonable costs of administering Medicaid claims processing?
Please keep in mind that staff who performs multiple duties including the function of a Medicaid clerk should code only the time spent performing Medicaid administration duties to the Medicaid funds as administration. Also the Medicaid clerk function is not a Special Education eligible cost either for the State funding formula or federal funds so if it is not charged to Medicaid, it will need to be part of its member district's education spending.
2. If it is not administration, is it a prevention and intervention program for ages 3 through grade 12?
The expectation is that planned expenditures are designed to result in fewer students being made eligible for special education.
3. Has the supervisory union decided to use part or all of the funds to operate a supervisory union-wide program?
Any supervisory union-wide program still needs to meet the other requirements including being in the school's action plan.
4. Can you identify the specific prevention/intervention areas it will target - Preschool through 4th Grade literacy; prevention and early intervention of emotional and behavioral difficulties; providing services required by students' 504 or EST plans; or other prevention and intervention components for Pre-K to Grade 12?
5. Is it clearly linked to part of the school's Action Plan relating to improving student performance?
6. Will it lead to improved student performance relating to the Vermont framework of standards and learning opportunities or locally adopted standards?
7. Does it augment other initiatives/programs in the school and conform to existing school policies?

The statutory language is on the **NEXT PAGE** for easy reference.

The following is the statutory language concerning the use of Medicaid reinvestment funds by school districts.

§ 2959a. Education medicaid receipts

(e) School districts shall utilize funds received under this section to pay for reasonable costs of administering the Medicaid claims process, and for prevention and intervention programs in grades pre-K through 12. The programs shall be designed to facilitate early identification of and intervention with children with disabilities and to ensure all students achieve rigorous and challenging standards adopted in the Vermont framework of standards and learning opportunities or locally adopted standards. A school district shall provide an annual written justification to the commissioner of education of the use of the funds. Such annual submission shall show how the funds' use is expressly linked to those provisions of the school district's action plan that directly relate to improving student performance. A school district shall include in its annual report the amount of the prior year's Medicaid reimbursement revenues and the use of Medicaid funds consistent with the purposes set forth in this subsection.